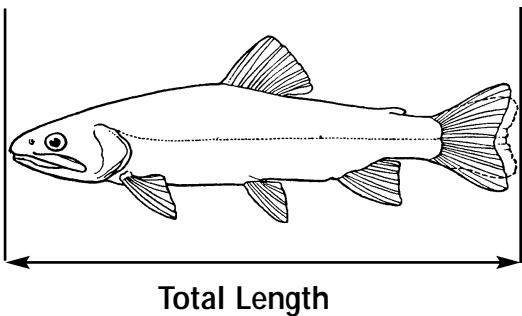


The tables that follow give statewide creel and length limits for major sport fish, and exceptions for major rivers and lakes. Regulations for many smaller lakes and boat access areas are posted on site, and posted regulations are in effect

Type of Fish	Sub-type or Locations	Creel and Length Limit	Geographic Exceptions	Creel or Length Limits for Exceptions
Bass: largemouth smallmouth spotted		5 per day in the aggregate  No statewide length limits	<b>Lakes</b> Lake Anna	No bass 12 to 15 inches
			Beaverdam Creek Reservoir (Loudoun County)	No bass 12 to 15 inches
			Briery Creek Lake	No bass 14 to 24 inches, only 1 per day longer than 24 inches
			Buggs Island (Kerr)	Only 2 of 5 bass less than 14 inches
			Chesdin Reservoir	No bass 12 to 15 inches
			Claytor Lake	No bass less than 12 inches
			Flannagan Reservoir	No bass less than 12 inches
			Lake Gaston	Only 2 of 5 bass less than 14 inches
			Leesville Reservoir	Only 2 of 5 bass less than 14 inches
			Lake Moomaw	No bass less than 12 inches
			Occoquan Reservoir from the reservoir dam upstream to the Lake Jackson Dam on Occoquan Creek and upstream to the Yates Bridge (Rt. 612) on Bull Run Creek	No bass less than 14 inches
			Philpott Reservoir	No bass less than 12 inches
			Quantico Marine Base waters	No bass 12 to 15 inches
			Smith Mt. Lake and its tributaries below Niagara Dam	Only 2 of 5 bass less than 14 inches
			<b>Rivers</b> Appomattox River – Brasfield Dam to Bevel's Bridge on Rt. 602, Chesterfield County	No bass 12 to 15 inches
			Clinch River—within the boundaries of Scott, Wise, Russell or Tazewell counties	No bass 11 to 14 inches
			Dan River and tributaries downstream from the Brantly Steam Plant, Danville	Only 2 of 5 bass less than 14 inches
			James River – Confluence of the Jackson and Cowpasture rivers downstream to Rt. 220 Bridge near Lick Run, Botetourt County	No bass 11 to 14 inches

### How To Measure a Fish



Type of Fish	Sub-type or Locations	Creel and Length Limit	Geographic Exceptions	Creel or Length Limits for Exceptions
continued Bass: largemouth smallmouth spotted		5 per day in the aggregate  No statewide length limits	<b><u>Rivers (continued)</u></b> James River– Rt. 220 Bridge near Lick Run downstream, to Rt. 614 Bridge Botetourt County	No bass 14 to 22 inches, only 1 per day longer than 22 inches  No bass 11 to 14 inches
			Rt. 614 Bridge downstream to the Interstate 95 Bridge, Richmond	
			New River–Claytor Dam downstream to the Va-WV state line and its tributary Little River downstream from Little River Dam, Montgomery County	No bass 14 to 20 inches, only 1 per day longer than 20 inches
			North Fork Holston - Rt. 634 Bridge near Saltville, Va-Tenn state line	No bass less than 20 inches, only 1 per day longer than 20 inches
			North Fork Shenandoah - Rt. 42 Bridge, Rockingham Co. downstream to the confluence with S. Fork Shenandoah at Front Royal	No bass 11 to 14 inches
			Potomac River - Virginia tidal tributaries above Rt. 301 Bridge	No bass less than 15 inches from March 1 through June 15
			Roanoke (Staunton) River and its tributaries below Difficult Creek, Charlotte County	Only 2 of 5 bass less than 14 inches
			Shenandoah River– Confluence of South Fork and North Fork rivers, Front Royal, downstream to the Warren Dam near Front Royal	No bass 11 to 14 inches
			Base of Warren Dam, near Front Royal, downstream to Rt. 17/50 Bridge	No bass 14 to 20 inches, only 1 per day longer than 20 inches
			Rt. 17/50 Bridge downstream to Va.-WV state line	No bass 11 to 14 inches
			South Fork Shenandoah River– Confluence of North and South rivers, below Port Republic, downstream to Shenandoah Dam near Town of Shenandoah	No bass 11 to 14 inches
			Base of Shenandoah Dam, near Town of Shenandoah, downstream to Luray Dam near Luray	No bass 14 to 20 inches, only 1 per day longer than 20 inches
			Base of Luray Dam, near Luray, downstream to the confluence with North Fork of Shenandoah, Front Royal	No bass 11 to 14 inches

Type of Fish	Sub-type or Locations	Creel and Length Limit	Geographic Exceptions	Creel or Length Limits for Exceptions
Striped bass	landlocked striped bass and landlocked striped bass X white bass hybrids	4 per day in the aggregate  no fish less than 20 inches	Smith Mountain Lake and its tributaries, including the Roanoke River upstream to Niagara Dam	2 per day in the aggregate
	anadromous (coastal) striped bass in all coastal rivers of the Chesapeake Bay	Creel and length limits shall be set by the Virginia Marine Resources Commission for recreational fishing in tidal waters		
	anadromous (coastal) striped bass in the Meherrin, Nottoway, Blackwater (Chowan Drainage), North Landing and Northwest rivers and their tributaries plus Back Bay	4 per day  No length limits		
White bass		5 per day  No statewide length limits		
Walleye		5 per day	Flannagan and South Holston reservoirs	No walleye less than 18 inches
		No statewide length limits	Claytor Lake and New River upstream of Claytor Lake Dam	No walleye less than 20 inches
Sauger		2 per day  No statewide length limits		
Chain pickerel		5 per day  No statewide length limits	Gaston and Buggs Island (Kerr) reservoirs	No daily limit
Northern pike		2 per day  No pike less than 20 inches		
Muskellunge		2 per day  No muskellunge less than 30 inches		

Type of Fish	Sub-type or Locations	Creel and Length Limit	Geographic Exceptions	Creel or Length Limits for Exceptions
Bluegill (bream) and other sunfish excluding crappie rock bass (redeye) and Roanoke bass		50 per day in the aggregate  No statewide length limits	Gaston and Buggs Island (Kerr) reservoirs and that portion of the New River from the Va.-NC state line downstream to the confluence of the New and Little rivers in Grayson County	No daily limit
Crappie (black or white)		25 per day in the aggregate  No statewide length limits	Gaston and Buggs Island (Kerr) reservoirs and that portion of the New River from the Va.-NC state line downstream to the confluence of the New and Little rivers in Grayson County	No daily limit
			Flannagan and South Holston reservoirs	No crappie less than 10 inches
Rock bass (redeye)		25 per day  No statewide length limits	Gaston and Buggs Island (Kerr) reservoirs and that portion of the New River from the Va.-NC state line downstream to the confluence of the New and Little rivers in Grayson County	No daily limit
			Nottoway and Meherrin rivers and their tributaries	5 per day in the aggregate with Roanoke bass  No rock bass less than 8 inches
Roanoke bass		No statewide daily limit  No statewide length limits	Nottoway and Meherrin rivers and their tributaries	5 per day in the aggregate with rock bass  No Roanoke bass less than 8 inches
Trout		6 per day  No fish less than 7 inches	See <a href="#">trout waters</a> .	
American shad and hickory shad	in the James River above the fall line (14th Street Bridge), in the Meherrin River above Emporia Dam, in the Chickahominy River above Walkers Dam, in the Appomattox River above Harvell Dam, in the Mattaponi River and Pamunkey River above the Rt. 360 bridges, and in the Rappahannock River above the Rt. 1 Bridge	No possession: (catch and release only)		

Type of Fish	Sub-type or Locations	Creel and Length Limit	Geographic Exceptions	Creel or Length Limits for Exceptions
continued American shad and hickory shad	below the fall line in tidal rivers of the Chesapeake Bay	Creel and length limits are set by the Virginia Marine Resources Commission		
	in the Meherrin, Nottoway, Blackwater (Chowan Drainage), North Landing and Northwest rivers and their tributaries plus Back Bay	20 per day  No length limits		
Anadromous (coastal) alewife and blueback herring	in the James River above Boshers Dam in the Meherrin River above Emporia Dam, in the Chickahominy River above Walkers Dam, in the Appomattox River above Harvell Dam, in the South Anna River above the U.S. Rt. 1 bridge, and in the Rappahannock River above Embrey Dam	No possession: (catch and release only)		
	below the fall line in tidal rivers of the Chesapeake Bay	Creel and length limits are set by the Virginia Marine Resources Comm.		
	in the Meherrin, Nottoway, Blackwater (Chowan Drainage), North Landing and Northwest rivers and their tributaries plus Back Bay	No daily limits  No length limits		
Catfish	channel, blue, flathead, white	20 per day  No length limits	All rivers below the fall line	No daily limit
	yellow, brown, black and snail bullheads	No daily limit  No length limits		
Other nongame fish	See: <a href="#">nongame fish regulations</a> .			